

AMERICANS STAY HUNS IN TERRIFIC BATTLE

U. S. TROOPS HOLDING OWN IN HEAVY CONFLICT

German 10 and 12-Inch Naval Guns Employed, Constantly Hurling Shells Into Towns Near Chateau-Thierry.

Roar of Cannonade Punctuated by Din of Machine Gun and Rifle Fire — Hottest Fighting Was at Vaux.

(Associated Press)

With the American Army on the Marne, July 15, 1:40 p.m.—Reports from Vaux this afternoon indicate that the Americans had advanced their line in this region in the face of the determined enemy attack. The advance extended a distance of approximately 700 yards, but the Americans subsequently withdrew to their original line for strategic reasons. Twenty-eight Germans were taken prisoner in this sector.

The American barrage here broke up the enemy waves and drove them back in confusion. Their own lines a distance of several hundred yards, but this has not been confirmed.

11:20 A. M.—Word received here shows that the enemy also launched an attack east of Rheims, but on the sectors on that front on which French and Americans are With the American Army on the Marne, July 15.—(11:15 A. M.)—The American forces on this front delivered a counter-attack upon the Germans in the Vaux region this morning and drove off the enemy.

It is reported that the Americans have advanced fighting side by side the positions are reported intact.

The American machine gunners here let the enemy come close to their positions and then opened a deadly fire into the advancing close formations of Germans.

In their attack on the Marne front the Germans threw many bridges across the river. Over these the Germans are passing under a withering fire from the artillery. German progress is being stayed by the machine gunners.

The Americans and their French comrades have resisted the enemy to the utmost and are continuing this character of resistance.

11:15 A. M.—The operation at Vaux appeared to be a feint, for soon after it began the Germans attacked all along the Marne, where they were gallantly opposed by more of the American troops and the French. The first crossing was made at the head of the big river bend. The American machine gunners and infantrymen fought and died where they stood here.

Others of the American troops withdrew strategically as the enemy attacked from east of Chateau-Thierry to along the Marne east of Dormans, making additional crossings.

(Associated Press)

With the American Army on the Marne, July 15.—(8:40 a.m.)—The Germans at daylight today launched a violent attack against the American positions west of Chateau-Thierry, especially near Vaux.

The attack came after a most violent bombardment of high explosives and gas shells throughout the night. The American troops sought shelter wherever it was available. When the enemy infantry appeared the Americans swarmed out and met the attackers with a rain of machine gun bullets.

The Americans wore their gas masks as they fought the attacking Germans.

An enemy bombardment of towns in the rear of the lines began shortly after 6 o'clock a.m.

8:55 A. M.—The latest reports say the Americans are holding their own in the fighting, maintaining their position.

Heavy shells from German naval guns are falling in regions far behind the actual battle area, many of these projectiles having fallen in the city of Meaux, twenty-five miles from Chateau-Thierry. In many of these towns the German shell fire is constant, the projectiles being from 10 and 12-inch naval guns.

Reports from American advanced positions said that the American troops were "handling the enemy well" in the desperate fighting which is continuing.

8:51 A. M.—At this hour it had not been determined how the battle in the vicinity of Vaux was progressing. The whole line in both directions from that town was dense with smoke and gas fumes. The roar of the cannonade was punctuated in the few intermissions with a terrific din of machine gun and rifle fire, which seemed of the hottest character in Vaux itself.

In this locality it was not known whether the Germans in this attack had begun another offensive, but the intensity of the fighting indicated to those near the scene that the operation was a renewal of the general attack that had been expected.

(Continued on Page 10)

AMERICANS ON RUSSIAN COAST

Participate With British in Occupation of Murman—Kem Captured.

ALLIED ARMY IN FAR NORTH

Movement at Express Request of Russians—Washington Not Informed of Action.

(Associated Press)

London, July 15.—American and British troops have occupied the whole of the Murman coast, in northern Russia, says a dispatch from Moscow to the Central News agency by way of Amsterdam.

After capturing Kem, a railroad station on the White sea coast, the dispatch adds, the American and British forces advanced toward Torok, the Russian bolshevik authorities having withdrawn to Nirok.

The commanders of the entente allied forces have issued an appeal to the population in the Murman coast requesting help against Germany and Finland. It is declared that the Murman coast is Russian territory under the protection of the entente powers.

(Associated Press)

British Welcomes News. London, July 15.—(British Wireless Service).—At the express request of the Russians considerable allied forces are now on the Murman coast, which is on the Arctic ocean to the extreme north of Russia. On this coast there are several harbors which are free from ice all the year round and are connected by rail with Petrograd. More forces are being sent and the local population is co-operating with the troops which have already arrived to defend these railways. Meanwhile, the Germans are making a desperate attempt to secure the control of the Murman coast. They need the harbors for submarine bases now that Zeppelins have been closed and Ostend rendered of little value while the British military fields make it more difficult for their submarines to reach the Atlantic.

May Employ Airplanes.

The total German force in Russia is thirty-two German and fifteen Austrian divisions, composed mainly of old and inferior men. This force is spread from Petrograd to the Black sea. In Finland the Germans have rather more than a division, but the bulk of this body is in the south and not easily within reach of the Murman railway. The railway may, however, be attacked by airplanes.

Stephen Pichon, the French foreign minister, addressed the foreign commission of the chamber of deputies on the subject and preliminary steps were decided upon. Meanwhile British public opinion welcomes the news that something is to be done to aid the Russians and is watching eagerly the progress of affairs on the Murman coast. The extent of the German menace in Russia is fully realized in England.

What Washington Says.

(Associated Press.) Washington, July 15.—American participation in the joint entente occupation of the Murman coast so far as known here, is limited to marines and aircraft, and the number of these, which is not large, cannot be definitely stated.

War department officials said today no American troops have been landed on the Murman coast to their knowledge, and that if it should turn out that such troops had made their appearance in the neighborhood of Archangel and Kola, they must have been despatched at the suggestion of Gen. Foch from some of the large number of American troops now training in English concentration camps.

An official dispatch from Rome says the entire Italian press comments upon the presence of allied troops on the Murman coast and the general impression is that the occupation will facilitate an agreement so that assistance to Russia will not be confined to simple protective measures for the Kola and Archangel railroads, but will have an international character, having as its aim the complete restoration of the Russian government.

Expect New Developments In the Russian Situation

Washington, July 15.—Official and diplomatic circles today were expecting new and important developments in the Russian situation. They also were hopeful that announcement of the personnel of the proposed American economic commission to Russia would shortly be forthcoming. They based this expectation on the fact that the exchanges between the allied capitals and Washington seem to have ended for the present. It now is known that the president has complete information before him as to the views of all of the allies and also as to the latest developments in Russia itself. Latest information reaching here today as to conditions in Russia are more or less contradictory. Russian embassy reports indicated that the Czech-Slovak movement in southern Russia has been checked, but old advisers say that it is so formidable that the soviet government is about to remove from Moscow to Miron and that there have been widespread mutinies among the bolshevik troops.

In Three Directions

Germans Attempting to Push Forward at Three Points in Fifth Offensive.

The Germans evidently are striking in three directions. In the Chateau-Thierry zone they are attacking toward the west; on the Marne and in Champagne they are attempting to press due south, while west of Rheims the nature of the battle front compels them to concentrate their pressure in a southeasterly direction.

The five 1918 western front offensives fell on the following dates: March 21—Picard. April 9—Flanders. May 27—Aisne-Marne front. June 9—Montdidier-Aisne front. July 15—Marne-Champagne front.

GERMANS CROSS RIVER MARNE

Employment of Fifty pontoons Enables Heavy Reinforcements to Enemy Forces.

ATTACK ON VAUX A FEINT

Americans Drive Huns Out of Village and Establish New Lines.

(International News Service)

With the American Army at the Marne, July 15.—The Germans launched a new offensive at 6 o'clock this morning, during which they succeeded in crossing the Marne, establishing bridgeheads on the southern bank.

The employment of fifty pontoons enabled the Germans to receive overpowering reinforcements, but the Americans counter-attacked, liberating their comrades, who had previously been captured and taken a few German captives.

The counter-blow gave time for a withdrawal of the artillery. The Germans then assaulted again, advancing further, while the Americans organized another counter-attack. The German attack at Vaux (held by the Americans west of Chateau-Thierry), which was delivered early in the morning, was a feint. The Germans succeeded in getting a temporary footing in the village, but the Americans immediately delivered a counter-attack and drove them out.

The Americans then established new lines a quarter of a mile in advance of their old positions, capturing some German prisoners.

The Germans began their attacks from the east of Chateau-Thierry as far as the district north of Dormans. The assaults were preceded by a terrific bombardment with gas and high explosive shells.

The Germans assaulted the allied positions in Champagne also but the French and their American supporters are holding out firmly.

BRITISH SUCCESSFUL IN OPERATION EAST AMIENS

London, July 15.—In an operation carried out last night the British positions south of Villers-Bretonneux in the region east of Amiens were improved, the war office announced today. A few prisoners were taken.

The British attack in Flanders yesterday, the statement shows, was launched on a front of 2,000 yards in the neighborhood of the ridge wood, in the Dikiebusch sector. The attack took the enemy by surprise and was successful, all the objectives being gained. Not all of the material captured has yet been collected.

The British gained ground and 260 prisoners in the fighting around Dikiebusch lake on Sunday. Dikiebusch lake lies southwest of Amiens. The enemy artillery displayed activity in the region south of Arras, and on the Flanders front, north of Bethune and in the Lore and Dikiebusch sectors.

SERIOUS RIOTS BREAK OUT IN CITY OF VIENNA

London, July 15.—A Central news dispatch from Amsterdam today stated that Vienna reports serious rioting by the pro-Slav element.

The pro-Slav element is hostile to the Austrian government. The Slavs have banded with the Czechs in Russia and are waging a determined revolution against the pro-German bolshevik.

No Rain, Says Billy 'Possum

Once more the drive is on, another "long expected," but no date's set for luncheon, it's one point the Huns neglected. But dispatches say so far that the Yanks have launched a counter, so the Kaiser's men may eat, that, if "they're big enough to mount 'er. The weather? Fair and warmer to night and Tuesday.

CHOSEN ROAD TO PARIS FOR DRIVE

Washington Officials Speculate as to Main Objective of German Plan.

DELAY SEEMS EXPLAINED

By Employment by Enemy of Naval Guns for Long-Range Bombardment.

(Associated Press)

Washington, July 15.—The Germans have selected the road to Paris for renewal of their drive, officers here believed today, judging from early reports on the violent movement which began at dawn. Whether the effort is designed actually to be pressed against the French capital, or to pave the way for a later assault north of Amiens, on the road to the channel ports, believed to be the main objective of the whole German plan, was the subject of interested speculation.

The new battle line runs clear around Rheims in its fifty-mile sweep from Chateau-Thierry, where the First and Second divisions are known to be in line. American troops in the Jaulgonne sector of the Marne, east of Chateau-Thierry, are also involved. Employment of heavy artillery to batter towns and communication lines far beyond the defense line, indicates that the delayed grand offensive has been opened. The object of the bombardment is to harass the movement of supplies and reinforcements to the danger points, and the careful preparation of the enemy may mean that he is ready to keep up the assault for days or weeks in the effort to drive through.

Reduction of Rheims.

Just where the main force of the attack will fall is not clear. The apex of the German advance on the Aisne front is at Chateau-Thierry, where the American First corps now holds the left flank of the new battle line. Presumably the main objective in this assault is some place to the east of that point, which lies on the direct road to Paris.

It is regarded as possible that the purpose of the attack is to widen still further the Aisne salient by the reduction of Rheims and the forcing back of the whole southern extremity of the 1918 battle area. A previous attack on Rheims was halted in its tracks by French and Italian troops and that place is now the center of a greatly increased assault. In some quarters this was taken to mean that reduction of the Rheims salient is regarded as vital to the success of the German enterprise as a whole.

Extensive employment of naval guns for long range bombardment of the allied rear positions suggests that it was the time required to bring up and emplace these weapons that held up the German drive.

Bundy in Path of Advance.

(International News Service.) Washington, July 15.—American interest in the fifth German drive in France today was intense. Directly in the path of the advance is supposed to be Maj. Gen. Omar Bundy's Second division, made up of regular army forces and the marines. In addition, other American units undoubtedly are having a part in the battle, which is expected here to develop into a combined attempt to break through towards Paris and to cut the lines of communication with the American, British and Belgian forces in the north.

Officials said today that it was far too early to forecast the outcome. They are hopeful that the line will hold with confidence. But it is pointed out here that this is a matter for Gen. Foch to determine. He has sufficient forces available to maintain present positions if he believes it is necessary to pay the price. If he does not, then, officials here who are familiar with the exact situation say he can be depended on to withdraw his men slowly and in good order, meanwhile inflicting stupendous losses upon the enemy.

Army officers declared that the early reports were very reassuring. The French war office statement that the French are sustaining their positions with great gallantry indicates that they have not been ordered to retire. It will be no surprise to officers here to learn that among the other objects of the new German advance is the shell-sewn city of Rheims. It is assumed here that practically the entire First army corps, which is under the command of Maj. Gen. Hunter Liggett, will be brought into action in the present operations.

PRESENTED WITH VOLUME OF PATRIOTIC EPISODES

With the American Army in France, July 14 (night).—The graduates of a military training school in a certain French town, who had received diplomas from Gen. Pershing, in the course of the celebration of Bastille day handed a volume containing patriotic French episodes to a general, asking that it be transmitted to Gen. Pershing's son, Warren, "from his comrades in France."

WORK OR FIGHT ORDER DRIVE COMES NEXT

Chicago, July 15.—Chicago federal officials, justified in their drive on army slackers by adding more than one thousand to the national army, are today taking steps to turn their attention to violators of the "work or fight" order.

The so-called slacker drive is over with more than twenty thousand men having been temporarily detained un-

50-MILE FRONT SCENE OF ANOTHER GIANT STRUGGLE

After Long Lull, Champagne is Battle Ground Where Teutons Are Reported to Have Broken Through Entente Lines.

French Meet Shock of Assault With Energy. Blow Fell Between Rheims and Argonne, Chateau-Thierry and Main de Massiges.

(Associated Press.)

London, July 15.—The Germans have crossed the Marne at several places in their offensive begun this morning, according to advices received here.

The main attack, it is added, seems to be in the Champagne.

The advices to this effect came to the Central News.

Advices received here regarding the German offensive state that the attack began on a front of thirty miles between Chateau-Thierry and Bligny, southwest of Rheims. The Germans also attacked east of Rheims, between Prunay and Maiso de Champagne, on a front of twenty-five miles.

Where Boches Were Recently Held.

(International News Service.)

London, July 15.—Another great German offensive is under way on the western front, according to information received here this afternoon.

The Germans were reported to have crossed the Marne river at several points and to have broken through at some places in Champagne.

In their last drive southward from the Aisne river heights the Germans got as far as the Marne, where they were held.

The drive in Champagne is the first offensive operations in that zone for a long time.

Between Rheims and Argonne.

(Associated Press.)

Paris, July 15.—A new offensive by the Germans was begun last night in the region between Rheims and Argonne.

On the front between Chateau-Thierry and the Main de Massiges the Germans attacked this morning, the office announces. The French are meeting the shock of the enemy attack with energy and the battle continues.

The struggle is proceeding on a front of about fifty kilometers (approximately fifty miles).

The statement follows:

"After violent artillery preparation the Germans attacked this morning from Chateau-Thierry as far as the Main de Massiges.

"French troops are meeting energetically the shock of the enemy on a front of about eighty kilometers. The battle is in progress."

Another Big Effort.

(International News Service.)

Paris, July 15.—The Germans early today launched another big effort on the western front.

A heavy drive over a wide front was reported by the French war office.

The heaviest attacks were at Chateau-Thierry and at Vaux.

SEES NO REASON FOR JAPAN'S INTERVENTION

Tokio, July 15.—There is no reason for Japanese intervention in the war, former War Minister Gen. Kuropaki was quoted as saying in an interview today. The general combated arguments of the intervention advocates, adding:

"There is no need to act in the protection of our interests as it is evident that order will be forthcoming as a result of the Czech-Slav activities. Even if they are unsuccessful the Semenov group or some other element will be able to restore the country without military aid. If interventions were intended as a move against the Germans a force of 50,000 or even 100,000 would be insufficient. A million men would be necessary. From any viewpoint, Japanese intervention is not needed now. However, if our national existence were threatened, we would stake all."

The new Siberian government proclaimed by Gen. Horvat contains some strong men. Among them are: Gen. Flug, former military governor of Vladivostok; M. Vostrotin, a former member of the Duma, and M. Tassin, who was a member of the government established by Gen. Semenov. The other members of the government, Okorokoff and Kurky, are reported from Harbin to have entered into negotiations with the Czech-Slavs.